

SESSION #3 PRESENTERS



Margaret M. Bissell is a graduate of the College of Saint Rose in Albany, New York and is the Director of the Bureau of Protective Practices, with the division of Child Welfare and Community Services (CWCS) within the NYS Office of Children and Family Services (OCFS). She currently oversees, the OCFS Child Fatality Review and Prevention Unit, the Multidisciplinary Team and Child Advocacy Center (MDT/CAC) unit, and the CWCS Oversight and Monitoring unit.

Ms. Bissell has over 20 years of experience in child welfare, starting out her career as a child protective caseworker and later working as an assistant director at the NY Statewide Central Register for Child Abuse and Maltreatment (child abuse hotline). She also spent time as an assistant director in OCFS's Bureau of Policy Analysis unit, where she worked on child protective related policies.

Ms. Bissell serves as the State Coordinator for the recently implemented Statewide Child Fatality Review Team (SCFRT). She believes strongly in cross-system's collaboration when working with families and youth, and particularly when looking at ways to prevent child fatalities.



Alma Idehen, MS is the Co-Director of the Bronx Healthy Start Partnership, a HRSA funded Community strategy to reduce infant and maternal mortality in the Bronx. She served as the Program Director for Albert Einstein College of Medicine's CTSA Supplement for *Building Capacity in Community Partners, Build 3C*, to conduct community engaged research. The project provided Qualitative Research Methods training for staffs of community based organizations and generated a special themed journal, selected products for CES4Health.info, and the development and documentation of the NYC Community Partner Forum.

Before coming to Einstein, Ms. Idehen served as the Health Director for the New York City Department of Education in the Bronx where she implemented school health, mental health, and community health initiatives in over 300 schools and worked with a number of local hospitals and health centers in establishing and maintaining school-based health clinics. She is an advocate and perpetual learner, who spends her time collaborating to build more inclusive and equitable systems that truly foster family and community resilience.



Yang Jiang, PhD has worked as a Senior Research Analyst at the Bureau of Maternal, Infant and Reproductive Health at the NYC Department of Health and Mental Hygiene. Her research has focused on improving the health of women and infants using quantitative research methods. Her work focuses on policies that reduce inequalities in infant mortality and birth outcomes. She also leads routine surveillance research on sleep-related infant injury deaths in NYC.

Dr. Jiang received her PhD in Sociology and her MA in Statistics from the University of Michigan, Ann Arbor.



Dr. Kristen Landi, MD is a Medical Examiner and Forensic Pathologist for the NYC Office of the Medical Examiner (OCME). She completed medical school in the Bronx at the Albert Einstein College of Medicine and her residency training in pathology at Yale. She returned to NYC for a fellowship in pediatric pathology at NYU/Bellevue and joined the OCME for additional fellowships in forensic pathology and forensic cardiac and neuropathology.

Dr. Landi stayed with the medical examiner's office, working in both the Queens and Bronx offices. During her 17 years in this position, she has specialized in pediatric forensic pathology serving on a number of city and national committees and societies focusing on the sudden death of children and infants, as well as child abuse deaths.



Michele Maye, MSW is the Executive Director of the NYC Infant Safe Sleep Initiative based at ACS, and is responsible for a coordinated, citywide strategy that builds awareness and understanding of the dangers of unsafe infant sleep practices. As the agency's lead on Safe Sleep matters, she oversees events, campaigns, materials development, and training curricula that informs parents, caregivers, professionals, and community stakeholders about sleep-related risks for babies. She leads a dedicated team of outreach coordinators working to establish strategic partnerships that bring Safe Sleep messaging to diverse

communities in all five boroughs.

Michele's 32-year child welfare career began at the ACS Brooklyn Borough Office, where she progressed from casework and supervisory positions. Later she joined the Accountability Review Panel in the ACS Office of Quality Improvement as a case reviewer, where she evaluated case practice in child fatality, serious injury, and repeat maltreatment cases, and made quality improvement recommendations.

Michele received her Masters in Clinical Social Work from New York University and holds a BS degree in Human Development and Family Studies from Cornell University.



Ancil Payne, LCSW is a trained psychotherapist with more than 25 years of experience in public child welfare and social work, serving in various capacities from direct services to administration, to clinical supervision and training. He currently serves as an Assistant Commissioner to the Office of Quality Improvement, in the Division of Policy Planning and Measurement at the NYC Administration for Children Services (ACS).

Prior to his current appointment, Mr. Payne served as the Director and Executive Director of the Office of Quality Improvement where he facilitated the ACS Accountability Review Panel (ARP), a multidisciplinary advisory body consisting of various human services professionals, as well as other city agencies and ACS staff. The Panel met monthly, reviewing child fatality cases to identify systemic issues in ACS practice and policy, foster inter-agency collaboration and information-sharing, and to make recommendations for system improvements. The Office of Quality Improvement continues to review child fatalities using a Safety Science approach.

Mr. Payne also serves as the Chair of the ACS Racial Equity and Cultural Competence Committee (RECCC), which has been instrumental in promoting racial equity across the organization. He holds a Master of Social Work Degree from Hunter College School of Social Work, and a Bachelor's Degree from the State University of New York at Stony Brook.
